

Docket No. NPOWER-3-US
Serial No.: 09/896,838

Remarks/Arguments

Status of Claims

Prior to this preliminary amendment, claims 1-147 were pending.

Claims 1-147 stand finally rejected.

Claim 1 has been amended, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 2-147 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

New claims 148 - 162 have been added.

It is respectfully submitted that the amendment to claim 1 and the new claims obviate the rejections and objections in the Final Office Action.

Amended claim 1 recites:

A method of verification of review of a provided information by an information consumer comprising:

providing said provided information having a plurality of signifiers inserted therein;

providing a signifier use instruction; and

determining whether an indication received from the information consumer demonstrates sufficient knowledge of said first signifiers in accordance with said signifier use instruction to provide an incentive to said information consumer.

Specification support for the signifier use instruction is found, for example, on page 24 of the specification.

New claim 151 reads as follows:

151. (NEW) A method of verifying review of information provided in text form on a topic by an information consumer, comprising:

providing said text form information having a plurality of text form signifiers inserted therein, said text form signifiers not pertaining to information on the topic; and

verifying the information consumer's review of the text form information by determining, based on an indication received from the information consumer, whether sufficient knowledge of the text form signifiers has been demonstrated by the information consumer.

Specification support for new claim 151 is found, for example, on page 22, line 4, to page 22, line 24. There is believed to be no disclosure or suggestion in the prior art of record of such a process including, by way of example, text form signifiers inserted in text form information, where the text form signifiers do not pertain to the information on the topic.

New claim 158 relates to a method of verification of acquisition of each of a group of products, including signifiers and signifier use instructions. Disclosure support is found, for example, at page 32, line 4, through page 33, line 3, and in Figure 11. It is respectfully submitted that the prior art does not teach the limitations of new claim 158.

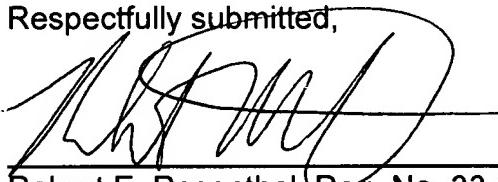
The dependent claims are submitted to be patentably distinguishable over the prior art, as well.

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CONCLUSION

Having fully addressed the Examiner's objections and rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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